

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 256439  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY NEA:RNEUMANN:BH

APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON,JR.

S/S-O:JETHYDEN

-----025292 262127Z /73

O 262038Z OCT 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 256439

NODIS

FOL RPT AMMAN 7856 ACTION SECSTATE 26 OCT 77 QUOTE

S E C R E T AMMAN 7856

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PGOV, PORG, PBOR, JO, US, XF, PDIP

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM KING HUSSEIN TO PRESIDENT CARTER

REF: A) AMMAN 7812, B) AMMAN 7858

SUMMARY: COURT CHIEF SHARAF HANDED ME ADVANCE TEXT  
OCT 26 LETTER FROM KING TO PRESIDENT. ALMOST ALL OF  
THE POINTS WERE PRE-FIGURED IN MY CONVERSATION (REFTEL)  
YESTERDAY WITH SHARAF. KING'S LETTER DRAFTED TO PRE-  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 256439

VIDE COMMENTS WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF WIDE FLEXIBILITY.  
END SUMMARY.

1. SHARAF ASKED TO SEE ME OCT 26 AND OFFERED TO  
PROVIDE ME WITH THE TEXT PREPARED FOR KING'S  
SIGNATURE OF A LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER REPLYING TO  
THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER WHICH CONVEYED TO THE KING

THE WORKING PAPER. SHARAF MADE THE PROCEDURAL POINT THAT KING HAS READ, CORRECTED AND APPROVED TEXT, BUT HAS NOT YET SIGNED IT. THEY EXPECT SIGNATURE THIS EVENING AND WANTED TO BE SURE THAT WHILE NO CHANGES WERE EXPECTED WE DID NOT RULE OUT ENTIRELY SUCH A POSSIBILITY. I SAID OF COURSE WE UNDERSTOOD THAT POINT AND APPRECIATED HAVING THE ADVANCED TEXT. (TEXT FOLLOWS REF TEL B.)

2. IN REVIEWING TEXT WITH ME, SHARAF POINTED OUT THAT JORDANIANS HAD WORKED AND RE-WORKED IT IN AN EFFORT TO PROVIDE COMMENTS WITHOUT THE NOTION OF A STRAIT JACKET FOR THE U.S.. U.S. WOULD BE THE BEST JUDGE OF HOW CHANGES COULD BE MADE.

3. TURNING TO THE TEXT SHARAF SAID PREAMBULAR PORTIONS (FIRST TWO PARAGRAPHS) AND NUMBERED PARA 1 ARE SELF-EXPLANATORY.

4. REGARDING NUMBERED PARA 2, PHRASEOLOGY IS "PALESTINIAN PEOPLE," BUT "PALESTINIANS" OR "REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIANS" WERE EQUALLY APPROPRIATE. I PURSUED POINT OF THE MENTION OF THE PLO EXPLICITLY IN THE PAPER A LITTLE FURTHER. SHARAF INDICATED A PREFERENCE FOR LANGUAGE WHICH DID NOT DO SO, BUT JORDAN WOULD CERTAINLY NOT  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 256439

MAKE A MAJOR CASE OUT OF OUR USE OF SUCH LANGUAGE IF IT BECAME NECESSARY. JORDAN RATHER PREFERRED THE LANGUAGE WE HAD NOW AND SHARAF'S ADVICE WAS MAINLY TACTICAL IN SUGGESTING THAT WE STICK TO IT.

5. THE THIRD NUMBERED PARAGRAPH MAKES TWO MAJOR POINTS--A) THAT THE ISSUE OF THE WEST BANK/GAZA AND THE REFUGEES SHOULD BE DISCUSSED "COLLECTIVELY" BY WHICH JORDAN MEANS BY ALL THE ARAB PARTIES AND ISRAEL, AND B) THAT SUCH QUESTIONS SHOULD BE PULLED TOGETHER FOR DISCUSSION.

6. IN NUMBERED PARA 4, I ASKED SHARAF HOW STRONGLY JORDAN FELT ABOUT THIS POINT. HE REPEATED WHAT HE HAD TOLD ME YESTERDAY--THAT THE UN HAD NEVER RECOGNIZED "JEWISH REFUGEES" AS A PROBLEM, THAT ONLY THE ISSUE OF "PALESTINIAN REFUGEES" HAS A VALID INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT. HE ALSO SAID THAT MOST OF THEM COULD GO BACK AND THAT IT WAS A PROBLEM IN THE MAIN OF EMIGRATION FROM ARAB LANDS. WHEN I POINTED OUT THAT SOME JEWS HAD LEFT UNDER CONDITIONS OF TENSION AND TURMOIL WITH THEIR HOST GOVERNMENTS, HE SAID

YES, THAT IS TRUE, IT IS A BILATERAL PROBLEM IN THOSE CASES BETWEEN MOROCCO OR IRAQ AND THE JEWS WHICH LEFT. THE CONFRONTATION STATES CANNOT SOLVE THAT PROBLEM, NOR CAN THE POTENTIAL PARTIES AT GENEVA SOLVE IT.

NEITHER THE PALESTINIANS NOR THE JORDANIANS HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EXODUS OF JEWS FROM THE ARAB WORLD. MOST OF THOSE WHO LEFT CAME FROM STATES WHICH ARE NOT CONTEMPLATED TO BE INCLUDED IN GENEVA. IN THE LONG RUN, IF THE ISRAELIS INSIST, THERE MAY BE SOMETHING WHICH THE CONFRONTATION STATES CAN DO TO FACILITATE THE EFFORT, BUT THE TWO PROBLEMS--PALESTINIAN AND JEWISH REFUGEES--  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 256439

ARE NOT GREATLY SIMILAR AND THE ARABS WILL RESIST AN ATTEMPT TO OFFSET ONE AGAINST THE OTHER FOR THE REASONS GIVEN.

7. NUMBERED PARA 5 OF THE LETTER, SHARAF SAID THIS REFLECTS THE POINT HE MADE TO ME YESTERDAY THAT SUCH COLLECTIVE PROBLEMS AS THE PALESTINIAN AND "PEACE" QUESTIONS SHOULD BE TREATED IN A COLLECTIVE CONTEXT, LEAVING OPEN WHETHER IT IS IN A PLENARY OR A COMMITTEE. JORDAN HAD TRIED TO BE HELPFUL HOWEVER, BY STATING THAT BILATERAL QUESTIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BILATERALLY AND SHARAF SMILED AND SAID YOU WILL KNOW THAT MEANS QUESTIONS LIKE SINAI AND GOLAN.

8. I HAD TIME TO READ THE LETTER IN SHARAF'S PRESENCE AND TOLD HIM I KNEW THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY WOULD APPRECIATE HIS MAJESTY'S EFFORTS TO BE HELPFUL AND THE UNDERSTANDING AND FLEXIBILITY WITH WHICH THE LETTER WAS COMPOSED.

9. SHARAF NOTED THAT THE JORDANIANS WOULD SAY PUBLICLY THAT HIS MAJESTY HAD REPLIED TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER, NOTE THAT THE CORRESPONDENCE WAS BEING EXCHANGED IN THE CAUSE OF PROMOTING MIDDLE EAST PEACE, AND THEY MIGHT MAKE A FEW REMARKS ABOUT JORDAN'S WELL-KNOWN POSITIONS ON THE SUBSTANCE OF A GENEVA SETTLEMENT. HE SAID THEY HAVE NO INTENTION OF MAKING THE TEXT PUBLIC IN THE SPIRIT OF OUR CONTINUING PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL EXCHANGES.

10. COMMENT: LETTER CONTAINS NO SURPRISES. IT REFLECTS THE KING'S ORIGINAL ACCEPTANCE OF  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 05 STATE 256439

OUR WORKING PAPER WITHOUT SAYING SO AND IN ADDITION PROVIDES SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGE WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY GROW OUT OF INTERNAL CONSIDERATION HERE AND EXCHANGES WITH THE OTHER ARABS. AT THE END OF OUR TALK, SHARAF SAID, "WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK TO THE ORIGINAL DRAFT?" I SAID THERE WERE OBVIOUS DIFFICULTIES IN DOING THAT WHICH HE COULD SEE RIGHT AWAY AND ASKED IF HE THOUGHT SYRIA WOULD ACCEPT THE ORIGINAL DRAFT. HE SAID NO THEY WOULD NOT, BUT WE SHOULD TALK FURTHER ABOUT SOMETHING IN BETWEEN THE ORIGINAL DRAFT AND WHAT WE HAVE BEFORE US NOW. IN ALL EVENTS I BELIEVE JORDANIANS WILL STILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO BE HELPFUL, BUT WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT THEIR INFLUENCE HAS BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE EXTREMELY LIMITED WITH THE OTHER ARABS.  
PICKERING

UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KING, PRESIDENT, PAPERS, REFUGEES, PALESTINIANS, CAT-B, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 26-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE256439  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RNEUMANN:BH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** N770006-0740  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 2  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19771019/aaaaapwo.tel  
**Line Count:** 194  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** ae199126-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN NODS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Reference:** 77 AMMAN 7812, 77 AMMAN 7858  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 780511  
**Secure:** LOCK1  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LETTER FROM KING HUSSEIN TO PRESIDENT CARTER  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PORG, PBOR, PDIP, PPDC, JO, US, XF, TS, (HUSAYN), (CARTER, JIMMY)  
**To:** JIDDA DAMASCUS MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ae199126-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009